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Appl. No. 10/629,171
Amdt. Dated Sep. 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of June 12, 2007

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraphs [0001], [0003], [0004] and [0018] as follows:

[0001] This application is related to a co-pending U.S. patent application entitled "EXTRACTION DEVICE FOR ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR", with application number 10/321,273, filed on December 16, 2002, invented by Chung et al., a co-pending U.S. patent application entitled "ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY WITH EXTRACTION TOOL", with application number 10/302,518, filed on November 22, 2002, invented by Chung et al., and a co-pending U.S. patent application entitled "PULL TAB FOR EXTRACTING ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR", with application number 10/120,633, filed on April 10, 2002, invented by Ko, an application with an ~~known~~ unknown serial number titled "PULL TAB FOR EXTRACTING ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR" and another application with an unknown serial number titled "EXTRACTION TAB FOR EXTRACTING ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR", and all assigned to the same assignee of the present invention.

[0003] To comply with the current trend of light weight and compactness, many electrical devices tend to employ small connectors such as cable connectors for transmitting signals. These connectors need to mate tightly with corresponding devices for transmitting signals reliably, which usually requires a great amount of applied force to extract these connectors from these devices when ~~there~~ it is necessary to replace these connectors with other connectors for different applications. Their separation is normally accomplished by manually shaking the connectors (or perhaps with prying tools) when the connectors are pulled away from the devices. However, the shaking action to the connectors inevitably bends the contacts of the small connectors and damages the connectors and/or the devices. It is also difficult to manually pull a connector having a very small size.

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[0004] In order to solve the above-mentioned problems, Japanese Publication for Laid-Open Patent Application No. 11-208461 discloses an extraction tab for extracting an L-type connector. The extraction tab comprises a front engaging aperture, a middle fixing hole and a rear manual portion. The engaging aperture is provided for engaging with a lower portion of a vertical mating portion of the connector. The fixing hole engages with a horizontal cable which connects with the connector. In use, by pulling the manual portion of the extraction tab upwardly, the L-type connector can be easily extracted from a mating electrical device. However, if the engaging aperture doesn't engage securely with the mating portion of the connector, the extraction tab tends to break away from the mating portion. In order to ensure ~~securely~~ secure engaging with the mating portion of the connector, a profile of the engaging aperture tend to be configured a little smaller than an outer profile of the mating portion. It is difficult to assemble such a small engaging aperture on the connector having a small size.

[0015] The extraction tool 1 is made of resilient insulative material. The extraction tool 1 comprises a pull tab 2 and a retention element 3 extending from the pull tab 2. The pull tab 2 has an elongate and strip-like configuration and comprises an engaging portion 21 and a handling portion 22. The engaging portion 21 horizontally extends and defines a circular engaging opening 211 in a substantially central portion thereof. The handling portion 22 extends rearwardly and upwardly from the engaging portion 21. The handling portion 22 defines an elliptic aperture 221 therethrough. The aperture 221 comprises a front portion partially defined through the engaging portion 21. The retention element 3 comprises a connection portion 31 and a fixing portion 32. The connection portion 31 perpendicularly extends from a side edge of the engaging portion 21. The fixing portion 32 extends from the connection portion 31. The fixing portion 32 defines a circular fixing aperture 321. A profile of the fixing aperture 321 is configured corresponding to that of engaging opening 211 of the engaging

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portion 21. In other embodiment, the handing portion 22 also can extend form the fixing portion 32. Thus, the engaging portion 21 defines a first plate 21, and the fixing portion 32 defines a second plate. A pull tab 22 can not only extend from the first plate 21 but also extend from the second plates 32, and the connection portion 31 linked between the first plate and the second plate.